

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-14 PC-05 EB-07 SIL-01

LAB-04 CU-04 SCS-05 MCT-01 DHA-02 AID-05 CCO-00

FBOE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 SP-02

OC-06 OPR-02 PA-02 USSS-00 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01

OMB-01 SS-15 SY-05 /116 W

-----161013Z 089277 /17

O R 160845Z JUN 77

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6218

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

USMISSION UN NEW YORK

UNCLAS JOHANNESBURG 1530

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SF, PINS, PINT

SUBJECT: SOWETO " VERY QUIET" ON MORNING OF JUNE 16.

1. SOWETO HAS BEEN REPORTED AS " VERY QUIET" THIS MORNING WITH THE BOYCOTT BY WORKERS APPARENTLY VERY EFFECTIVE. SOURCES IN SOWETO HAVE STATED POLICE IN RIOT GEAR, BACKED UP BY 'HIPPO' ARMORED VEHICLES ARE OUT IN HEAVY FORCE. STUDENTS HAVE ADVISED TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS TO STAY INDOORS FROM 6 A.M. THIS MORNING UNTIL 10 A.M. " IN MOURNING".

2. IN CONTRASTING STYLES, MINISTER OF JUSTICE KRUGER WARNED STUDENTS NOT TO START ANYTHING WHILE POLICE CHIEF VISSER APPEALED FOR CALM. POLICE ARE EQUIPPED WITH PLASTIC SHIELDS, HELMETS, AND BATONS, ALTHOUGH SOME ARE ALSO CARRYING RIFLES AND HANDGUNS. SO FAR, POLICE HAVE USED TEAR GAS AND " SNEEZE MACHINE" A TRUCK THAT SPRAYS TEAR GAS AND TALCUM POWDER
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TO BREAK UP ANY DEMONSTRATIONS. POLICE WERE PATROLLING TRAIN AND BUS STATIONS IN HEAVY NUMBERS TO PREVENT INTIMIDATION OF WORKERS, ALTHOUGH POSSIBLE CONFRONTATIONS APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN MINIMIZED BY STUDENTS' REQUEST TO STAY INDOORS UNTIL 10 A.M AND LARGE SUPPORT SHOWN FOR BOYCOTT CALL.

3. BUS AND TRAIN SERVICES REPORT " LOWER THAN NORMAL" TRAFFIC INTO JOHANNESBURG FROM THE TOWNSHIPS AND SOWETO TAXI DRIVERS

ASSOCIATION HAVE STOPPED CARRYING PASSENGERS UNTIL TOMORROW
IN ACCORDANCE WITH BOYCOTT CALL. DOWNTOWN JOHANNESBURG IS CALM
WITH FAR FEWER BLACKS AROUND. NO BLACK LOCAL EMPLOYEES AT EITHER
CONGEN OR USIS JOHANNESBURG ARRIVED FOR WORK THIS MORNING AND
CHECKS WITH JOHANNESBURG BUSINESSES INDICATE WHAT COULD BEST
BE DESCRIBED AS "UNEVEN" RECORD OF ATTENDENCE AS SOME ESTABLI-
SHMENTS REPORT NEAR NORMAL WORK FORCES WHILE OTHERS HAVE
SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS STAYING AWAY.

4. MINISTER OF JUSTICE KRUGER HAS THREATENED TO BAN SEVERAL
COMMEMORATIVE SERVICES AND MEETINGS IN THE WHITE COMMUNITY BECAUSE
OF THEIR "INFLAMMATORY" NATURE. SPECIFICALLY, HE WARNED BEYERS
NAUDE, ALBIE POP, AND DRAKE TSHENKENG NOT TO MAKE "POLITICAL
SPEECHES" AT AN ANGLICAN VIGIL SCHEDULED FOR ST. MARY'S
CATHEDRAL IN JOHANNESBURG. HE ALSO APPEARS TO BE HEADING FOR A
DIRECT CONFRONTATION WITH STUDENTS AND SOME FACULTY AT
WITS UNIVERSITY OVER PLANS THERE FOR A MEETING. KIRBY

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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